

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

September 27, 2021

Hon. Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

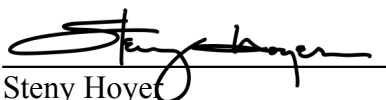
Dear Senator McConnell:

On three occasions over the past four years, the previous president and the Republican Senate, in which you served as Majority Leader, asked Democrats to do the responsible thing for the American people and vote to suspend the debt limit. Every signatory to this letter did so at least once, setting aside the temptation to extract political pain, in order to ensure that our country could pay its bills.

We agreed with your assessment in 2017, 2018, and 2019 that the consequence of inaction would be, as you said, “a debt limit crisis that could put our full faith and credit at risk.” Indeed, we also agree with your statement last week that, “The country must never default. The debt ceiling will need to be raised.” In this instance, the American people would confront a default crisis at a much more vulnerable moment as the economy recovers from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. It is time for you and the Republican Conference you lead to do as we did before – to do the right thing, the necessary thing, to avert a manufactured crisis.

Holding the debt limit hostage, as you and forty-five of your Republican Senate colleagues have said you will do, is a dangerous, illogical, and irresponsible way to express that concern. Whatever you think about the policy agenda that the current administration and the Democratic majorities in Congress are pursuing, we know you agree that it would be dangerous malpractice to allow our economy to be unnecessarily crippled by political uncertainty over a possible default on our obligations as a country. You said as much as two years ago when you last voted to suspend the debt ceiling. We hope you will do your part – and that you will convince your fellow Republican senators will do theirs – to ensure that our economic recovery can move forward without this brinksmanship.

Sincerely,



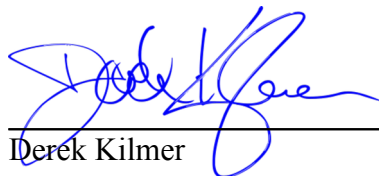
Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader



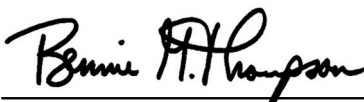
John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



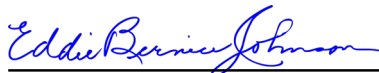
Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress



Bennie G. Thompson
Member of Congress



David Scott
Member of Congress



Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



James A. Himes
Member of Congress



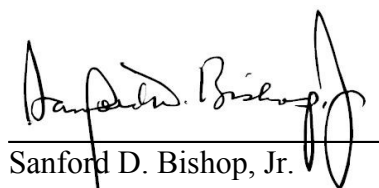
Colin Z. Allred
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



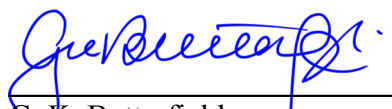
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



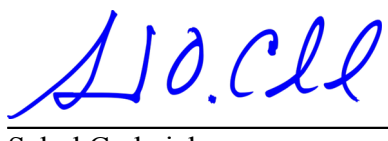
Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress



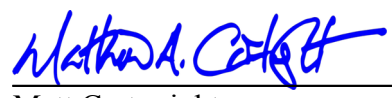
Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



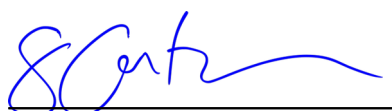
G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress




Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress



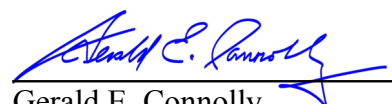
Matt Cartwright
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Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
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Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



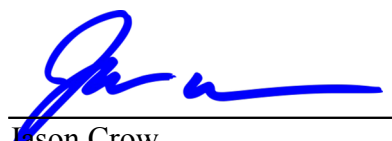
Jim Costa
Member of Congress



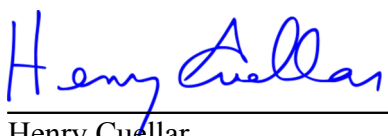
Joe Courtney
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Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



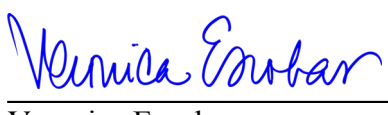
Henry Cuellar
Member of Congress



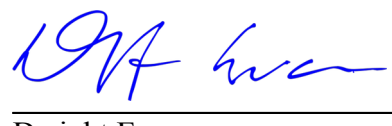
Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



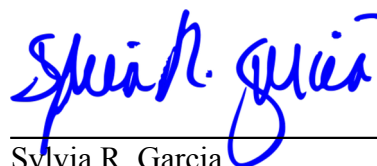
Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



Bill Foster
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Al Green
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins
Member of Congress



Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



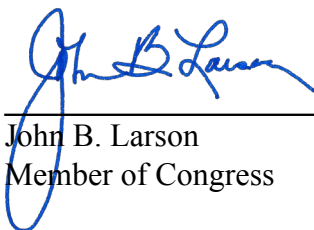
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



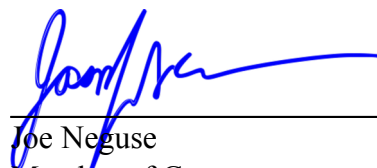
Brenda L. Lawrence
Member of Congress



Susie Lee
Member of Congress



Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Tom O'Halleran
Member of Congress



Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips
Member of Congress



Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



C. A. Dutch Ruppertsberger
Member of Congress



Bradley Scott Schneider
Member of Congress



Terri A. Sewell
Member of Congress



Mikie Sherrill
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Paul D. Tonko
Member of Congress



Lori Trahan
Member of Congress



David J. Trone
Member of Congress



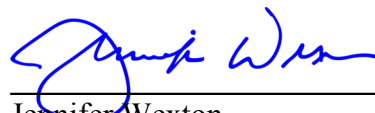
Lauren Underwood
Member of Congress



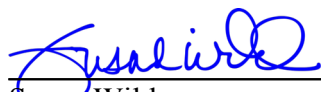
Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress



Susan Wild
Member of Congress